

## Colossians 2:4-23

- Point of our Passage: We \_\_\_\_\_ false teaching when Christ \_\_\_\_\_ our lives and is \_\_\_\_\_ in the way that we live.
  - Col. 2:4-23

### ***Setting the Stage for the Passage – Col. 2:4-7***

- Col. 2:4
  - Paul is beginning to explicitly place everything he has said in contrast to the \_\_\_\_\_ teachings.
    - “Plausible arguments”
      - The words of the teacher will appeal not only to your \_\_\_\_\_, but they will also function logically and will be well \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *Point:* Paul is saying that these views being taught by the false teachers are plausible arguments on the surface, but if you dig deeper, you will find that they are invariably missing one thing: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Col. 2:5-7
  - “I am absent in body, yet I am with you in Spirit”
    - we must be with our brothers and sisters in spirit because it is a consequence of being unite with Christ.
  - Gal. 1:6
  - Col. 2:5-7
    - Paul moves from encouragement to \_\_\_\_\_.
      - “Therefore...” (v.6) – Paul is using this word as an attention grabber.
    - What did they receive? **Christ**, which is to say, the understanding of Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_ because of what he does and who he is.
      - When Christ \_\_\_\_\_ our lives, he must also be \_\_\_\_\_ in the way that we live.
        - V. 7 – “Rooted,” “built up,” “established” and “abounding”

### ***Point/Counterpoint Argument – Col. 2:8-23***

- In response to the fear tactics of the false teachers, Paul begins to refute the views in detail by engaging in what is known as a point/counterpoint form of argument
  - Paul will \_\_\_\_\_ his enemy’s viewpoint and then \_\_\_\_\_ his enemy’s viewpoint.
- Surveying the remainder of the passage.
- Col. 2:8
  - The reality is the logic and teaching of these false teachers is empty \_\_\_\_\_.
    - “Elemental Spirits”
      - The word elemental is simply expressing the idea that these spirits are bound to the \_\_\_\_\_ – they are *worldy* spirits, whose power is limited to the *world*.

- "...according to Christ."
        - If teaching does not accord with Christ, it's not legit.
  - Col. 2:9-10
    - These two verses bring us back to the main idea of Colossians: Christ is \_\_\_\_\_ over all things.
      - "Your fullness comes from His fullness; his [fullness] is \_\_\_\_\_ by virtue of your \_\_\_\_\_ in Him." – J. B. Lightfoot
        - The implications of our fullness = v. 10
          - Because you are in Christ, you are filled in him. Because you are filled in him, you share in his \_\_\_\_\_ over the powers of darkness in this world.
- Col. 2:11-12
  - "...by the circumcision of Christ"
    - We put off the body of the flesh "by means of" the "circumcision of Christ."
      - He is the reason, our source of \_\_\_\_\_, and the only way we can possibly put off the body of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Rom. 6:3-4
- Col. 2:13-15
  - Union with Christ isn't just some high-brow, unfathomable doctrine. At its core level, it is the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Union with Christ means that you were raised with Christ in his \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Union with Christ means the ruler and authorities of this world are put to open \_\_\_\_\_ and are triumphed over by the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Col. 2:16-17
  - The two priorities of the false teachers:
    - \_\_\_\_\_ - "Severe self-discipline and avoidance of indulgence."
    - \_\_\_\_\_ - A structure of works-based righteousness
- Col. 2:18-19
  - The false teachers were insisting that the Colossians were \_\_\_\_\_.
  - To remove Christ as the \_\_\_\_\_ is to destroy the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Col. 20-23
  - It is entirely contradictory to submit to regulations that accord with \_\_\_\_\_ precepts and teachings rather than \_\_\_\_\_ precepts and teachings.
  - Their discipline was pointless because it did not \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ.
    - The false teaching turned signs of \_\_\_\_\_ into conditions of \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Application**

- Let your status as "in Christ" inform the way you "\_\_\_\_\_ Christ."
- Always be practicing \_\_\_\_\_ regarding teaching.
- Remember that to be "in Christ" means you have unlimited access to the heavenly reservoirs of \_\_\_\_\_ by the power of the Gospel.
- Because what we believe changes how we live, only in and by Christ can we overcome \_\_\_\_\_.